









ANNUAL REPORT

of the

STATE ARID LAND GRANT COVILISSION

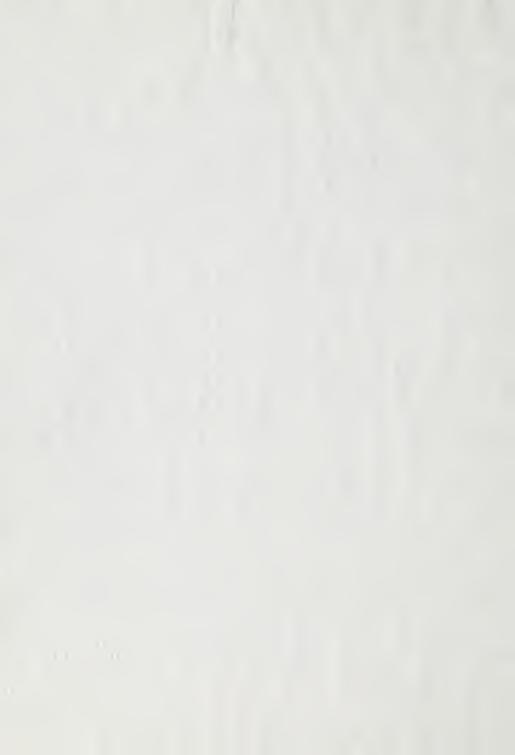
of the STATE OF MONTAMA

December 1, 1900

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ANNUAL REPORT

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### STATE ARID LAND CRIMT COMMISSION

To Hon. Robt. E. Smith, Governor of Montana:

Sir: --

There is little to report in the way of actual work accomplished by the Arid Land Grant Commission, save the segregation of a tract in Lewis and Clarke County, known as District No. 4.

## District No. 1

Strenuous effort has been made to interest capitalists in District Mo. 1, near Billings. Responsible sistern parties now have the proposition before them and the Commission hope for favorable results. There is a total of ten thousand, six hundred and thirty-two (10632) acres in this district, and its close proximity to the city of Billings should make it an attractive proposition to investors, as the land would be taken as fast as the contractors could get it ready for the settler.

The Northern Pacific Land Department own fifteen thousand (15,000) acres which should be made a part of this district, and have offered exceedingly favorable terms to prospective purchasers. The engineering work, through the financial aid of the public spirited citizens of Billings, has been completed.

## District No. 2

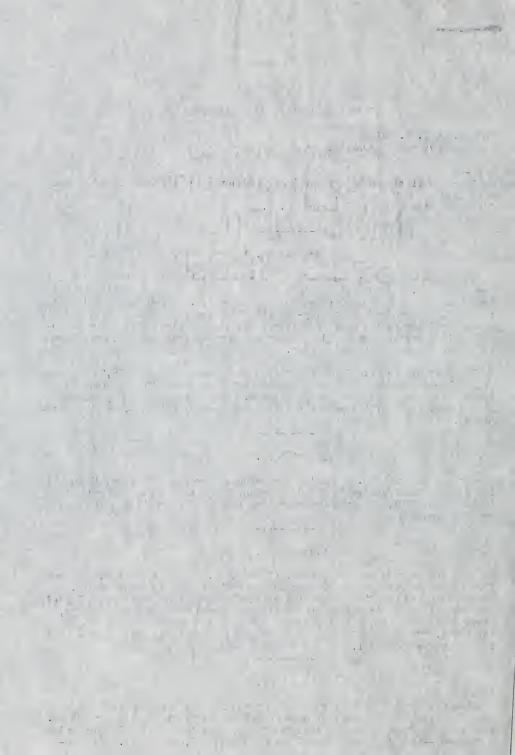
Work in Listrict No. 2 should have begun on the first of June, 1900, but, for reasons satisfactory to the Commission, the time has been extended to April first, 1901, with the understanding that no further time would be asked or granted.

### District No. 3

Marrants bearing seven per cent. (7 per cent.) interest have been issued for the engineering and other work in District No. 3, in Carbon County. Twenty thousand (20,000) acres of magnificent bench land have been selected, and situated as it is between the thriving towns of Fridger and Red Lodge, there would be no delay in its prompt settlement, upon the completion of the canal. The Commission feel safe in saying that this canal will be built during the year of 1901.

## District No. 4

Fids for the building of the canal system in this district were duly advertised, and the Commission hope to let the contract in the near future. The water for this system will be Dry Oreak, Simms! Creek and Spring Coulee reclaimed,—in all, about thirty—three thousand (32,000) acres. The con-



tract will provide for the prompt etilment of the land, as last a it is reclaimed.

Public centiment fully recognizes the necessity and importance of irrication, and much could be accomplished in the next few years could be legislature be made to realize the value to the State of this work. An appropriation should be made to meet the necessary expenses of the Commission. Under the present law, there is no fund for the maintenance of an office for the meetings of the Poard or for the purchase of the necessary stationery and office supplies. If the law is a good one there should be no selfish opposition to State aid in forwarding the work of the Commission.

Should the logislature think it wise to quarantee, say, four per cent. (4 per cent.) interest on the tends, the problem of the early segregation and reclamation of the million cores of land ceded the State under the "Carey" law would be solved, as the lands would be quickly taken up by thrifty farmers, and much taxable wealth added to our State.

Statements, showing receipts and expenditures for the various districts are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
DAVID A. CORY,

Secretary, State Arid Land Grant Commission Dated Helena, Montara, December 10, 1900.

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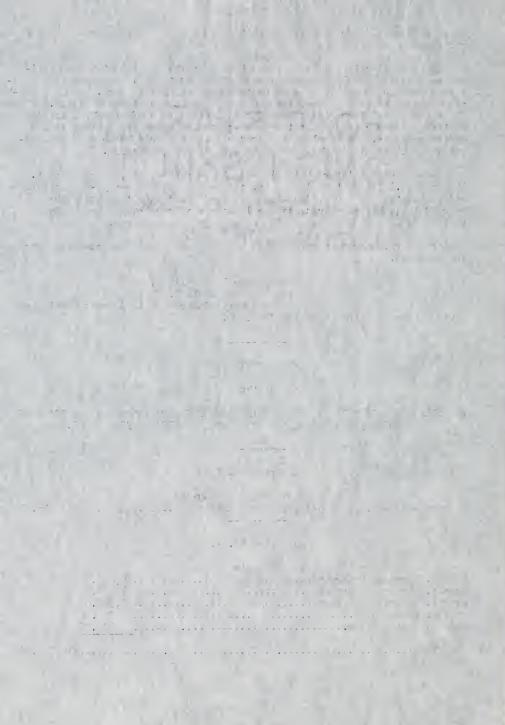
FINANCIAL CONTITION OF THE STATE ARID LAND GRANT COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, FOR THE FISCAL YOUR ENDING MOVEMBER 30TH, 1900.

# District No. 1

	No	Receipts	or Disbursements	
Falance outstanding,	as	per last	Annual Statement 7,17	5.89

### District No. 2.

Receipts	
From A. Wormser, Contractor	
Total	.795.9



Paid all claims of December 1st, 1879
To al
District No. 3
Receipts From 'Jarrants issued
Dis ursements  Paid Surveyors and their expenses
Total
REC:PITUT'TICN
Amount of indebtedness, District No. 1, November 30, 1900
Amount of indebtedness, District No. 2, November 30, 1900 304.35
Amount of indebtedness, District No. 3, November 30, 1900 2, 66.00
Accounts payable, expenses of office, rinting, ostage, etc., from May 1st to November 30th, 1900
Total
The chove is a correct statement of the financial condition of the State frid Land Grant Commission on the 30th day of November, A. D., 1900.

State Arid Land Grant Commission

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